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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4164

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 000132

SECSTATE FOR EUR/PPD, EUR/NB, EUR/PA

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: Arsons connected to threats

¶1. According to local press reports, in the morning of February 26, arsonists attacked four grocery stores in the Stockholm suburban city of Sodertalje. Two of the stores were set on fire with the aid of timed firebombs. Flyers posted on February 19 and again on February 25 claiming to be from an organization calling itself 'The Global Intifada' urged people to set fire to shops selling American goods.

¶2. The Embassy on February 24 transmitted a message, cleared with Consular Affairs, via the warden system notifying the U.S. community about the press reports of the flyers and encouraging U.S. citizens to exercise caution while shopping.

¶3. The Embassy received several inquiries from the media in the morning of February 26, including from the Associated Press, about the incident and the warden message. The Embassy responded with routine information about the warden system, and referred all other inquiries to the Swedish authorities.

¶4. If there is further information about links between the arson attacks and anti-U.S. groups, Embassy will report septel.

SILVERMAN